

Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission

Meeting of June 21, 2013 Minutes

Brown University
Geology/Chemistry Building - Room 029
324 Brook Street
Providence, RI

Dr. Mecca called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. The following individuals were present at the meeting:

Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission:

Dr. Stephen Mecca, RIAEC Chairman
Dr. Andrew C. Kadak, Commissioner
Dr. Barahm Nassersharif, Commissioner
Dr. Peter L. Gromet, Commissioner
Dr. Anthony Nunes, Commissioner
Jennifer Sternick, Commission Legal Counsel

Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center:

Mr. Stephen Guarino, Assistant Director for Radiation and Reactor Safety
Ms. Constance Hathaway, RINSC Staff

Observers:

3 others who chose not to be identified

Introductions:

Dr. Mecca opened the meeting with a review of the agenda. Dr. Kadak passed out a signup sheet for the guests in attendance. Ms. Hathaway audio recorded the proceedings of the meeting as did Mr. Guarino.

1. Approval of May 16, 2013 Draft Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Dr. Nassersharif to approve the minutes seconded by Dr. Kadak. Discussion followed with a modification of the minutes to include Dr. Kadak as absent. Additionally, Dr. Nunes claimed that he voted against the proposed bylaws instead of the recorded vote of abstain. The minutes will be changed to reflect his recollection. Discussion ensued about the title of the interim executive director as reported in the minutes. Dr. Nunes made a motion to modify the minutes regarding the interim executive director position title but did not receive a second. The draft minutes were approved with these modifications agreed to by a vote for – Mecca, Nasersharif, Gromet; Against - Nunes, Abstain – Kadak.

Since his proposed amendment was not accepted (no second), Dr. Nunes requested that the following language be added to the minutes for today.

“Substitute the term “Interim Administrator” for “Interim Director” under item 6 and item 7. It should read:

6. Appointment of the Administrative Administrator

Dr. Mecca made a motion to appoint Dr. Nassersharif as the interim administrator noting the need for such a critical leadership position at the RINSC. Dr. Nassersharif announced that he was going to abstain from the discussion and vote.....”

7. Deliberations....

...in his new capacity as Interim Administrator...”

His motion to make these changes did not receive a second.

2. Vote on Revised Bylaws of the RIAEC

Dr. Nassersharif made a motion to accept the bylaws as posted. Seconded by Dr. Gromet. The adequacy of the posting was questioned by Commissioner Nunes. Dr. Nassersharif explained the timeliness and location of posting. A vote was taken – 4 in favor and Nunes abstained.

3. Report of the Interim Director

Dr. Nassersharif in his temporary role as Interim Executive Director reported on the status of the facility. Operation of the reactor is still heavily restricted due to the lack of a qualified RSO and the interim measure employed to allow for reactor operation is dependent on Dr. Reinhardt’s availability. URI student projects are being held back due to the lack of operation.

Dr. Nassersharif reported that Dr. Kadak and our legal representative had a good meeting with the Governor’s staff to clarify the current situation at the RI Nuclear Science Center. The biggest priority of the Commission is the hiring of a new Executive Director for the Center.

When questioned by Dr. Kadak how many days the reactor actually operated since April 25th when the Commission instituted the mitigating measure to allow for operation, neither Mr. Guarino nor Ms. Hathaway could provide this information. Mr. Guarino did report that the neutron flux monitor was inoperative for two to three weeks preventing operation.

4. Executive Session – To Discuss Executive Director Search

A motion was made by Dr. Nassersharif and seconded by Dr. Gromet to go into Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Law 42.46.5 (a) (1). Nassersharif notified all applicants of this discussion in writing and in advance. None requested to be here. The vote was 5 to 0.

A motion by Dr. Nassersharif seconded by Dr. Gromet to seal the minutes pursuant to RI General Law 42-46-5. Vote was 5 to 0.

Motion to adjourn Dr. Nassersharif and seconded by Dr. Kadak. Vote was 5 to 0

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew C. Kadak
Commissioner

DRAFT